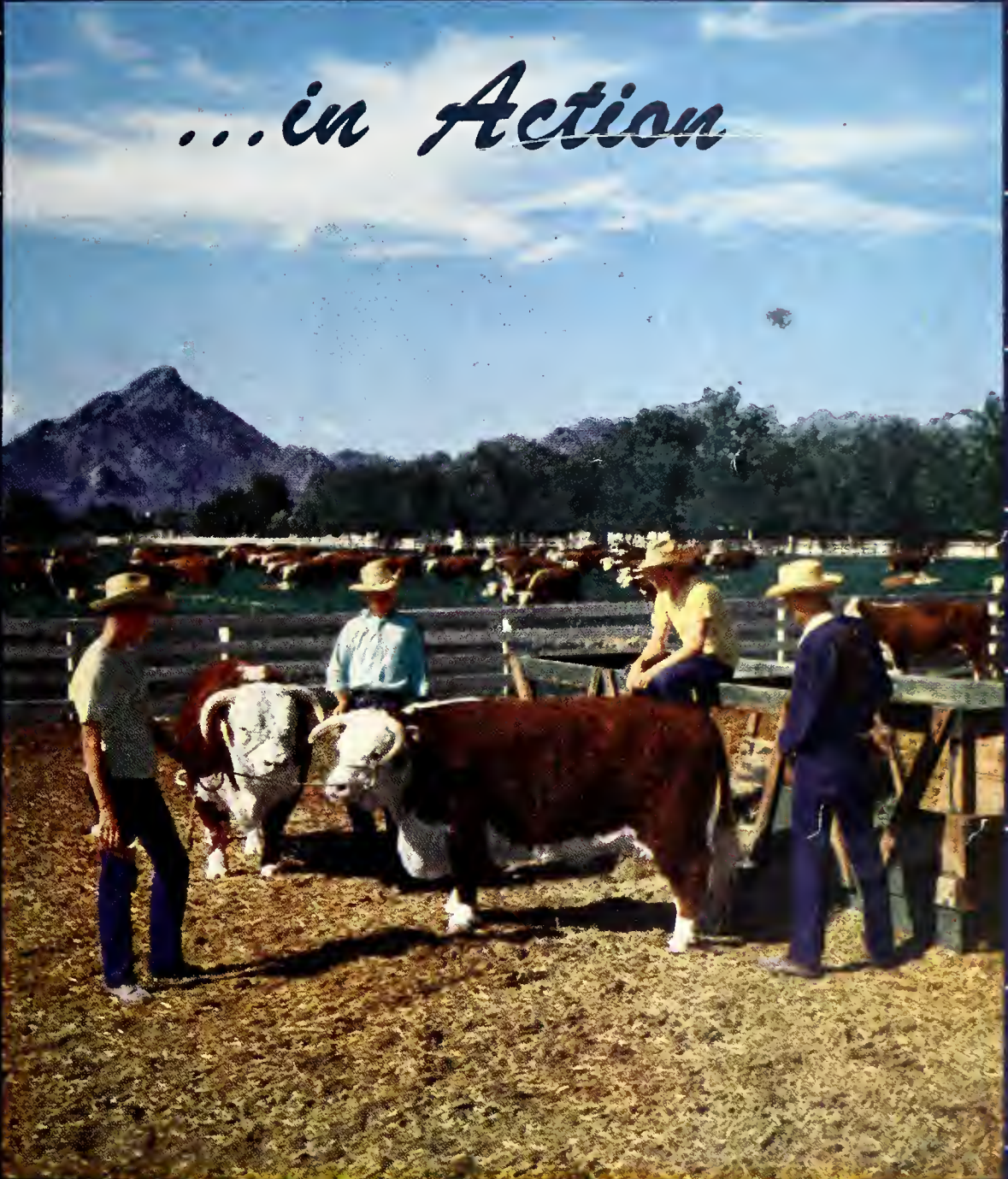


Second Edition

Future Farmers of America

...in Action



Learning to do, Doing to learn Earning to Live, Living to serve

The national emblem of the Future Farmers of America. The owl is symbolic of wisdom and knowledge; the plow is the symbol of labor and tillage of the soil; the rising sun is emblematic of progress, and the day that will dawn when all farmers are trained and have learned to cooperate; the cross-section of an ear of corn represents common agricultural interests since corn is native to America and grown in every State; and the eagle is indicative of the national scope of the organization.



Cover Picture: Future Farmers select breeding stock for their herds of beef cattle which they are developing as a part of their supervised farming programs.

Prepared by the Future Farmers of America in cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

FOREWORD

THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA is the National Organization of, by and for farm boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools which operate under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. High school departments of vocational agriculture provide four-year courses of systematic instruction in agriculture and farm mechanics, taught by teachers who are agricultural college graduates employed on a twelve-months' basis. They follow up their instruction throughout the year by supervising the farming operations of their students on their home farms. The average age of F.F.A. members is approximately 17 years.

The major purposes of the Future Farmers of America are to develop leadership, cooperation, citizenship, improved agriculture, and patriotism. The national organization includes chartered State associations composed of local chapters situated only in public high schools having departments of vocational agriculture. There are four degrees of active membership—"Green Hand," "Chapter Farmer," "State Farmer," and "American Farmer." Advancement through these grades of membership is based on achievement in vocational agriculture and progressive establishment in farming.

Throughout the United States, the Territory of Hawaii, and the Island of Puerto Rico, the organization has grown rapidly in numbers of chapters and membership, and is now recognized as the largest farm boy organization in the world. National headquarters are maintained in the Agricultural Education Service of the U. S. Office of Education. A National Convention is held annually in the Municipal Auditorium at Kansas City, Missouri.

The Future Farmers of America Foundation Incorporated, has been established to provide business, industry, organizations and individuals with an opportunity to cooperate in promoting the program of the F.F.A. and to assist students and former students of vocational agriculture to become established in a farming occupation.

This second edition, which presents in pictorial form typical activities of the F.F.A., was prepared by A. W. Tenney, National Executive Secretary, Future Farmers of America, in cooperation with other members of the Agricultural Education Service of the U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C. We wish to thank all those who furnished pictures and otherwise assisted in the preparation of this publication.



Chief, Agricultural Education Service
U. S. Office of Education
Washington, D. C.

National Activities

THE national organization of Future Farmers of America is composed of forty-seven State associations plus the associations of the Territory of Hawaii and the Island of Puerto Rico.

A national convention is held annually at Kansas City, Missouri. These conventions are conducted by the national boy officers under adult direction. The officers are elected at the an-

nual conventions to serve a one-year term.

The national organization carries out each year many types of important activities.

These include stimulating contests, conducting a national F.F.A. camp, cooperative work with other organizations, building a sound public relations program and helping develop a better understanding with farm boys in other nations.



National F.F.A. officers were luncheon guests of Lord Inverchapel, Ambassador from Great Britain, at the British Embassy in Washington, D. C. These farm boy leaders exchanged ideas on scientific farming with the

Ambassador. They also invited him and a delegation of farm boys from Great Britain to attend and participate in the national F.F.A. convention at Kansas City, Mo. This invitation was accepted by the Ambassador.



Hon. Harry S. Truman, President of the United States, greets a group of national officers of the Future Farmers of America. President Truman reminded these young farmers that he was reared on a farm and was aware of

the challenging problems and opportunities they faced. He congratulated the officers for the worthwhile achievements of the F.F.A. on local, State and national levels and encouraged the members to continue their good work.

Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson, shows the national officers of the Future Farmers of America pictures of his farm in New Mexico. He accepted an invitation from these young men to address the annual national F.F.A. convention.





Senator Walter F. George of Georgia receives the Honorary Degree of American Farmer from the national president of the Future Farmers of America. Senator George has been a staunch supporter of this

farm boy organization. He has also done much to make instruction in vocational agriculture available to farm boys in rural public high schools. Members of the F.F.A. are grateful for his sincere interest and leadership.



Mr. Albert Goss, Master of the National Grange, discusses the agricultural situation with the national officers of the F.F.A. A most wholesome relationship exists between the Future Farmers of America, the

National Grange and other adult farm organizations. Many F.F.A. members join these adult organizations and take an active part in them. This is one way in which these young men apply their F.F.A. training.



STAR FARMERS



Star American Farmers. Each year a Star Farmer is selected from the F.F.A. members who receive the American Farmer Degree. This is the highest degree conferred by the organization. The four degrees, Green Hand, Chapter Farmer, State Farmer and American Farmer, are all based on achievement. The Star Farmer awards are made at the National Convention at Kansas City, Missouri.



National conventions of the Future Farmers of America are attended annually by thousands of members and guests. Here we see a portion of the audience at a recent convention which was attended by approximately fifteen thousand persons.

Donors to the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated were platform guests at a special program held in their honor at a national F.F.A. convention. Members of the F.F.A. are grateful for the interest and support shown by business, industry and organizations.



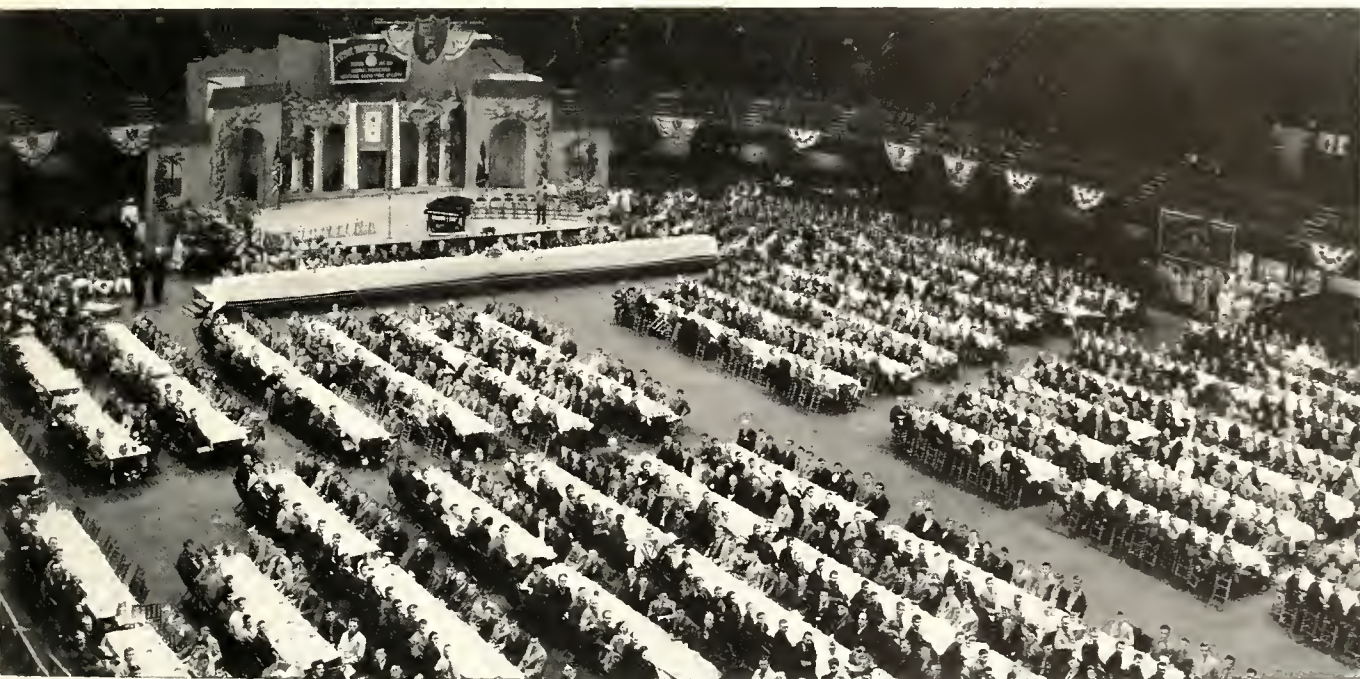
The annual banquet at a national F.F.A. convention. The banquet which was attended by more than 1800 members and guests was sponsored by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. The banquet was held in the large main arena of the Municipal Auditorium.



A memorial service was held at a national convention in honor of the 260,450 active and associate members of the F.F.A. who served in the armed forces of our country during World War II. Of this number 7,188 paid the supreme sacrifice.

Approximately 200 members receive the American Farmer Degree at a national convention. It is the highest degree conferred by the F.F.A. There are four degrees in the organization all of which are based on individual achievements.







Mortimer Snerd and Edgar Bergen are surprised when a national president presents Mortimer a certificate of Honorary membership in the F.F.A. The convention audience also had the privilege of meeting and hearing Charlie McCarthy and other famous entertainers.



Mickey Rooney and Connie Haynes, famous movie stars from Hollywood, entertain at a national convention of Future Farmers of America. Farm boys from all over the nation are thrilled by the top flight entertainment presented annually by famous movie and radio stars.

The national officers of the Future Homemakers of America were honor guests at a national F.F.A. convention. The youthful leaders of both organizations

were photographed together. The F.F.A. and F.H.A. cooperate in many ways. Much can be expected from the members of these organizations in the future.





A presentation of the Buffalo Grass Dance at a national convention by members of an F.F.A. chapter composed almost entirely of Indians. These students of vocational agriculture are making much progress in scientific farming, leadership and farmer citizenship.



The presentation of the victory pageant at a national F.F.A. convention. The pageant portrayed the part members of the organization played in helping to win the war. Uncle Sam and representatives of each State association participated in the pageant presentation.

The presentation of Star Farmer awards at the American Royal Livestock Show. These awards which are presented each year on F.F.A. Day at the Royal are

recognized as the most significant of those made by the organization each year. Members are inspired by the outstanding records of achievement of Star Farmers.



State Activities

STATE Associations of Future Farmers of America have been organized in all States having local chapters. These associations provide dynamic leadership for the chapters. They hold State conventions and plan and carry out challenging programs of work.



Selecting the prize winning exhibits at a Ham, Bacon and Egg Show sponsored by a State F.F.A. association.



Representatives of local Future Farmer chapters meet for the annual State convention. One of the feature attractions at this convention was the State F.F.A. Band.



Governor Jim McCord of the State of Tennessee signs a proclamation designating "State Future Farmers of America Week." Similar recognition is given the F.F.A. in other States. National F.F.A. week is held the week of George Washington's birthday.



An F.F.A. egg exhibit at a State Fair. A special "Future Farmer Day" is held at many State Fairs to honor F.F.A. members. Boys prepare exhibits to show accomplishments in the F.F.A. and farming.



School Facilities

THE department of vocational agriculture is an integral part of the rural public high school. The teacher of vocational agriculture is a member of the school faculty. Facilities are provided for use in the instruction of students who are studying to become farmers. These facilities vary according to the needs of the

community. They usually consist of a separate building which contains an office, classroom, farm shop, storage rooms and a laboratory. In addition many departments have land laboratory plots or school farms for use by students. Such facilities make it possible to teach Future Farmers in a practical and scientific manner.

Many F.F.A. chapters own and operate chapter farms where members may keep livestock and crop projects to get their practical training in agriculture. The farms

are particularly useful where several students live within the town. Students learn to apply on the school farms, information which they receive in classroom instruction.





A class in vocational agriculture studies scientific methods of farming. Visual aids, including posters, charts, slides, film strips and motion pictures are used extensively for instructional purposes in these classes.



A Future Farmer selects tools to use on his farm mechanics project in the vocational agriculture farm shop. These shops are well equipped with hand tools and power equipment for efficient use by the students.



Members of a local F.F.A. chapter process tomatoes in the school-community cannery. Boys process large quantities of food each year which they produce on their home farms. Food conservation is important.



A vocational agriculture building. These buildings are usually located on the school campus. Space is provided for a classroom and a farm shop. F.F.A. chapter meetings are usually held in these classrooms.

Supervised Farming



A former active member of the Future Farmers of America rides the range to look after the herd of purebred beef cattle which he has raised. He has become successfully established in ranching.

A teacher of vocational agriculture discusses peanut production with one of his students. Teachers visit students frequently on their home farms to assist them with their supervised farming problems.



EACH student of vocational agriculture conducts a program of supervised farming. Boys usually start with small projects. They increase the projects in number and scope each year and grow into the farming business while they are in school. Boys apply the instruction on the home farm that they receive at school. In addition to the educational values of the course members of the F.F.A. earn while they learn.

A member of the F.F.A. adjusts the automatic waterer for part of his fifteen hundred broilers. This is one of his farming projects.





This young farmer, a former F.F.A. member, started his dairy herd ten years ago with one heifer as an F.F.A. project. From that beginning he developed a herd of 110 cows and a farm of more than 100 acres.

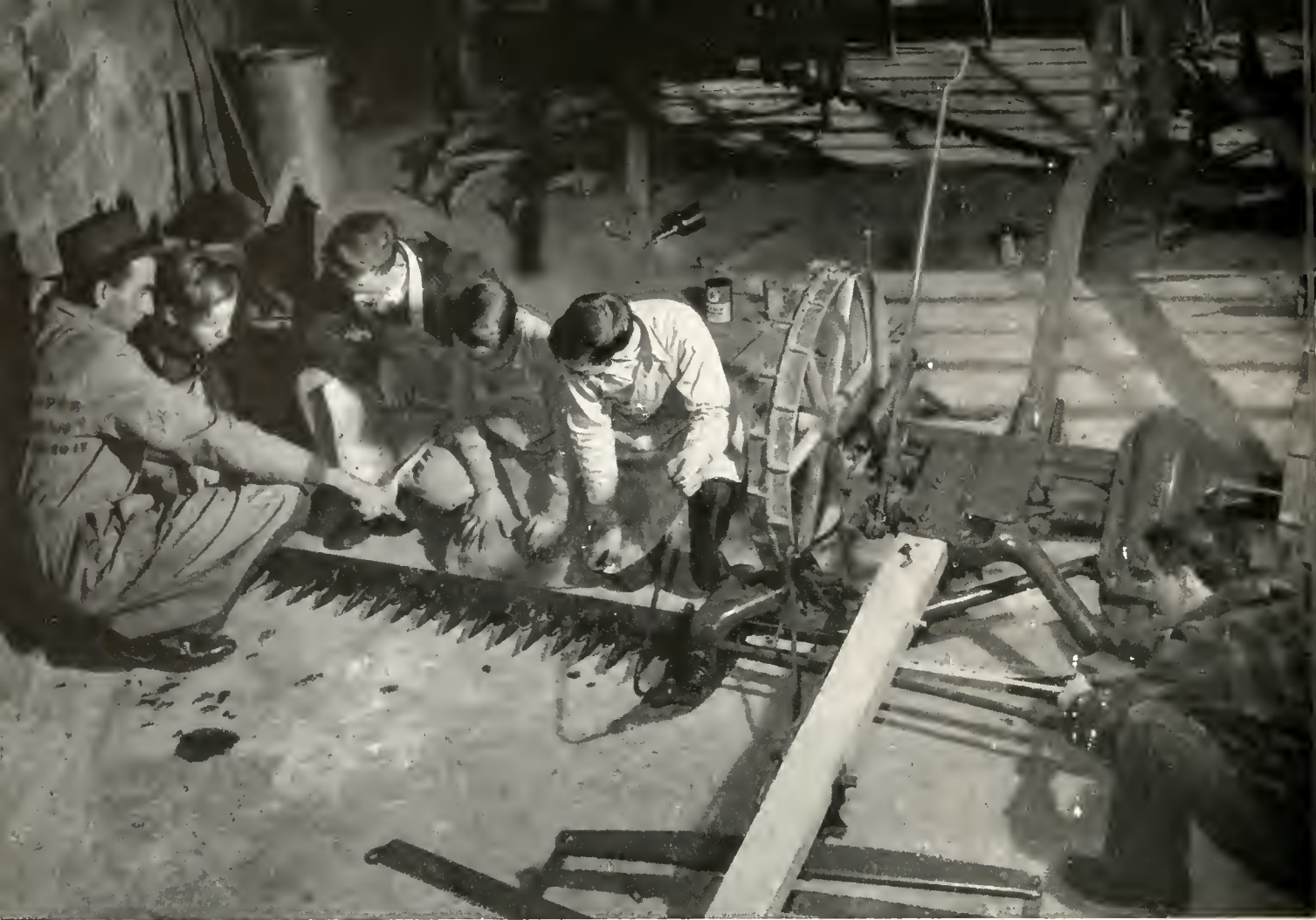


This young man, a former "Star State Farmer" earned more than \$6,000 from swine and grain his first year out of high school. Members of the F.F.A. learn that the use of scientific methods of farming pays well.



These F.F.A. members are studying types and uses of native grasses. Such grasses play an important part in soil conservation in most States. These young farmers study and apply many types of improved farm methods on their farms.





Students of vocational agriculture learn how to line up a cutter bar on a mower under the direction of a competent

instructor. Farm boys learn to adjust, operate and maintain their farm machines while studying scientific farming.



It's harvest time. Farm boys learn in vocational agriculture classes how to produce, harvest and market truck crops. Many F.F.A. members are studying to become truck farmers. They learn in a practical manner.



An "American Farmer" looks over his purebred flock of sheep in his home pasture. Members learn to produce quality livestock economically in their supervised farming programs while enrolled in vocational agriculture.



A "Future Farmer" learns the secrets of raising plants in the school greenhouse. Many members grow into the business of producing flowers and shrubs. They frequently

start such projects at the school and then expand them at home. They have an opportunity to increase their programs while learning essentials of the business.



A group of F.F.A. members learn to lay tile for drainage. Under the direction of the teacher of vocational agriculture they receive instruction in farm mechanics.



A member of the F.F.A., his father and the local teacher of vocational agriculture talk things over. Teachers visit students frequently to help them with their farm problems.

Cooperation

ONE of the objectives of the Future Farmers of America is to train farm boys to work together. Members receive instruction and experience in many types of cooperative activities. These activities are performed by the boys under the direction of their local instructors of vocational agriculture.



The national officers of the F.F.A. and the Star Farmer talk things over with Quentin Reynolds, President of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, at the annual cooperative convention.



Members of an F.F.A. junior dairy herd improvement association test milk for butterfat and record production records under the direction of the teacher of vocational agriculture at the school.

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One of the reasons for the progress made by F.F.A. chapters is the excellent cooperation and guidance received from adult advisory councils. Here we see a council assisting the teacher of vocational agriculture with the F.F.A. program for the local community.



→
Members of the Future Farmers of America cooperate in staging a potato grading demonstration at the State College. These young men study modern agricultural methods and apply them to advantage in their supervised farming programs on their home farms.



→
A number of F.F.A. chapters meet to study improved methods of farming. Here we see them watching an airplane dusting demonstration for controlling weeds in wheat fields. Educational field trips are made frequently by Future Farmers to see new practices.



→
Members of the F.F.A. and F.H.A. work together canning sweet potatoes for war relief. The members of the Future Farmers of America canned and gave to war relief a million cans of food in one year. Much of the food was grown by members on their home farms.





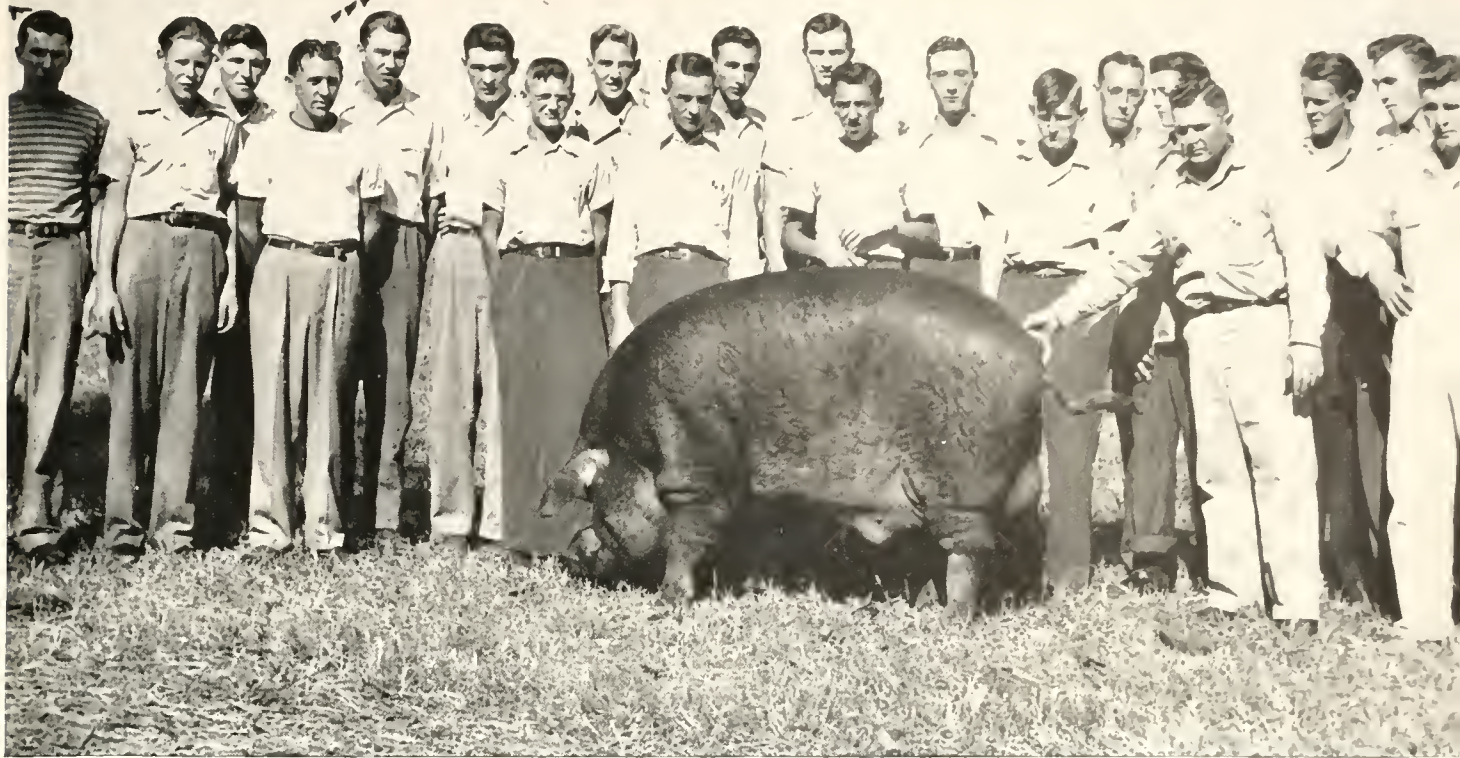
National officers of the Future Farmers of America have many opportunities for travel and becoming associated with leaders in the fields of education, business and industry. The national officers in the foreground of this

picture were entertained in Washington, D. C., by the American Institute of Cooperation whose officials are standing in the back with staff members from the Agriculture Education Service of the U. S. Office of Education.

Members of the Future Farmers of America sponsor a tobacco show and sale. Several chapters usually cooperate in sponsoring such events. The boys who participate receive much valuable experience and helpful information from shows. The proper display of their produce leads

to a higher sales price. The experience of taking part in shows leads to the production of better quality produce in a practical economic manner. Besides all of the values it's just plain fun too to listen to the chant of the tobacco auctioneer at the annual tobacco show and sale.





Members of a local chapter of Future Farmers of America and one of their prize winning purebred boars. This chapter has conducted an outstanding swine improvement program for many years. During one twelve months'

period forty-four chapter members owned 250 purebred brood sows. They sold during that period \$21,825 worth of breeding stock to buyers from eighteen States. These young men work together in a very efficient manner.

Future Farmers of America and Boy Scouts of America have common interest in the development of leadership and citizenship, and the two organizations often work together in the attainment of their common purposes. When F.F.A. national officers visited in New York City

the Scouts were on hand to greet them. Officers of the two organizations and their leaders were enjoying an evening of fellowship when the photographer grouped them for this picture. Members of the Future Farmers of America cooperate with many other organizations.



Community Service



Members of a local chapter of Future Farmers of America and a class of veterans studying agriculture jointly sponsor a soil conservation field day. Much interest is shown by both groups in such educational demonstrations.

Here we see these groups and other guests studying methods of terracing. Soil conservation is very important in most sections of our nation and members of the F.F.A. study and apply the latest methods on their home farms.

LOCAL chapters of Future Farmers of America perform many different types of community service activities. These activities have become so popular that a special division of the chapter program of work is called community service. A committee from the chapter studies the needs of the community to determine the ways in which F.F.A. members can be of most service. Members develop wholesome qualities of leadership and citizenship while working to serve others.



A class in vocational agriculture studies a field shelterbelt. F.F.A. members use them to control wind erosion, produce fuel wood and fence posts and create wildlife habitats. Shelterbelts are valuable community assets.



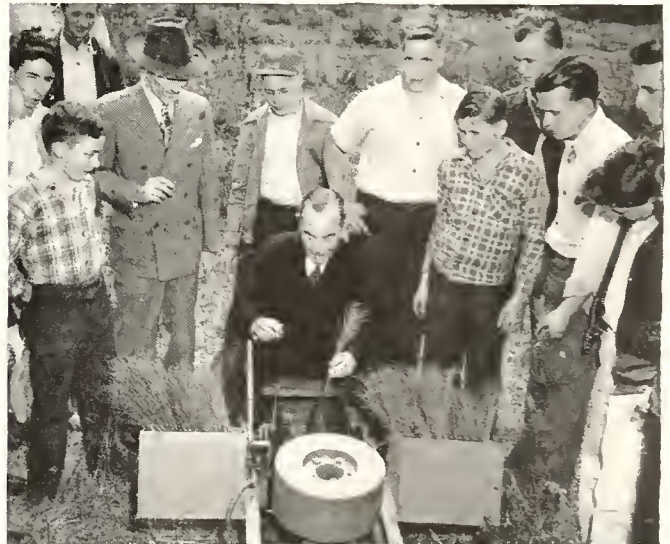
Members of the F.F.A. learn to apply the latest developments on their home farms. Here we see them using dynamite to make a drainage ditch on a school farm.



This is how the ditch looked when the class returned to inspect the results of the blasting. Students study and apply on their farms practical methods in farm mechanics.



F.F.A. members present a pageant at their State convention to portray the part they played in helping to win World War II. They made helpful contributions.



Members of a local chapter learn to use a modern forest tree planting machine. Millions of seedlings are planted on idle acres each year by the Future Farmers of America.

Leadership



A typical local chapter of the Future Farmers of America holds a meeting. Members receive valuable experience in public speaking, parliamentary procedure, committee

work, providing entertainment and in other ways at such meetings. These local chapter meetings are conducted by the boys under the capable direction of the adviser.

VALUABLE instruction and experience in leadership is given members of the F.F.A. They are being trained to be good leaders in their home communities.



A State Executive Committee meets during the annual State convention.

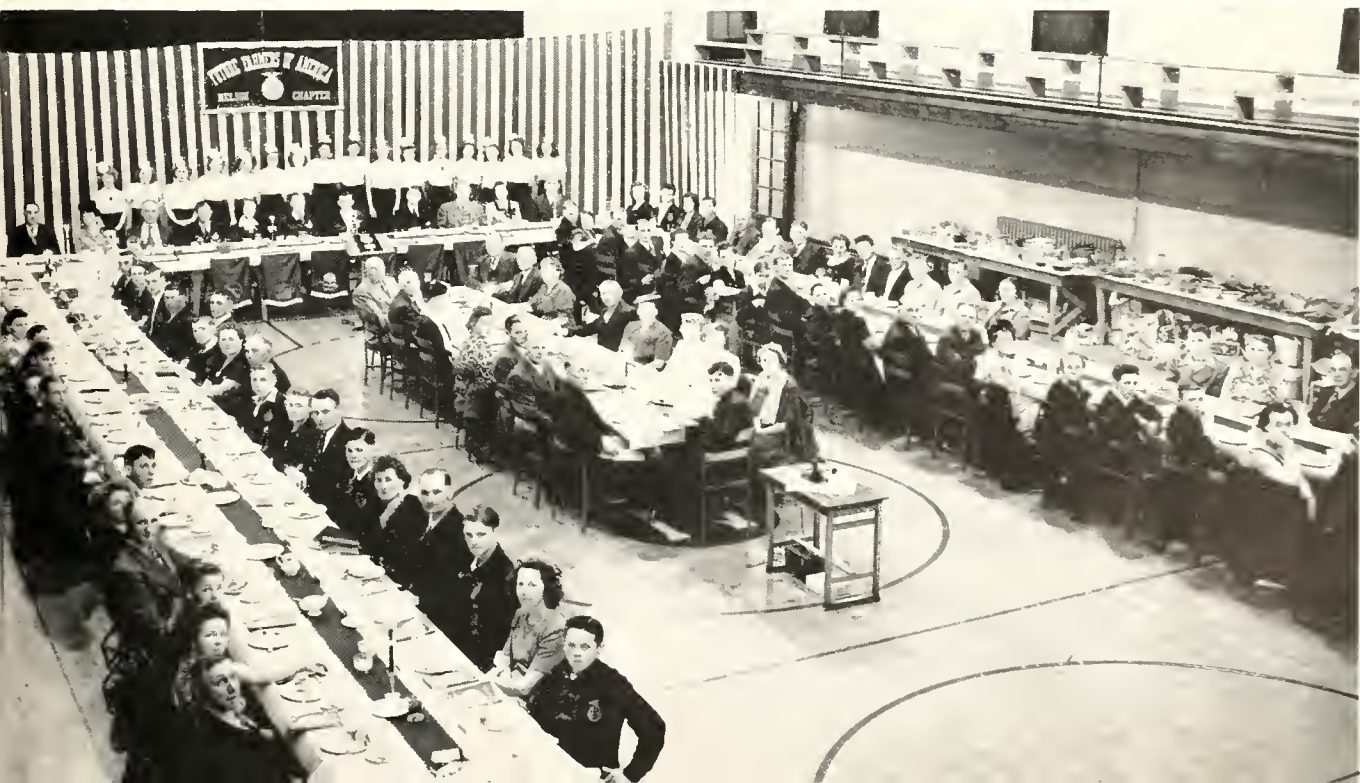
This young man, who serves as president of his State F.F.A. Association, has just introduced Governor Cherry of North Carolina who was guest speaker at the State Convention.



The Future Farmers of America organization is internationally known. Here F.F.A. members are pictured as they participate in a broadcast with foreign youth on international topics.



Future Farmers like to invite their mothers and dads, officials and friends, in once a year for a banquet and program to show their appreciation for help and encouragement.



Recreation

LOCAL F.F.A. chapters provide and encourage the development of organized rural recreational activities. Recreation sponsored by Future Farmers supplements the school recreational program. Farm boys are very fond of outdoor sports such as camping, swimming, hunting, fishing, and athletics.



Future Farmers like the great outdoors and camping is a much favored weekend pastime for chapter members.

There's a new look to the old swimming hole since the Future Farmers pooled money and labor to build a camp for their State association. Many state associations operate successful camps.



Husking contests are as old as the States where corn is grown, but they still provide plenty of fun when good neighbors meet. Young and old, Future Farmers and farmers, enjoyed themselves trying to win the prizes at this party given by the local chapter.



The game of badminton provides recreation, fun and fellowship for F.F.A. members at the State camp. Vacation days at the camp give boys rest from their arduous farm chores and opportunity to meet and swap interesting experiences with their fellow Future Farmers.



Ever hear of the Future Homemakers of America? They're the home economics studying sisters of the F.F.A. and really nice to have around when the recreation schedule calls for a barn dance to celebrate opening of a new F.F.A. building at the school.



Future Farmers crowd the chow line when dinner is served at their State camp. Several of the State associations own camp grounds that have dining rooms, dormitories and play equipment. Meal costs are low under the cooperative plan of feeding the members.



A Successful Young Farmer

WITH THE PLEASURE OF HOME, FAMILY AND SECURITY, A FUTURE FARMER OF YESTERDAY IS A SUCCESSFUL FARMER TODAY.

The beginning of this charming family scene dates back to 1933 when the father, then a slight lad, enrolled as a student of vocational agriculture in his local school. His supervised project program for that first year consisted of one purebred gilt, one acre of corn, one

acre of tobacco and one acre of Austrian winter peas. Each year as he studied vocational agriculture, expanded his projects, and participated in F.F.A. activities he was building up a farming program that would serve as the foundation of a real, fulltime farm business. Winner of the State Farmer and American Farmer degrees, upon graduation from high school his accumulated savings, which with local bank financing, started him in the purchase of the farm which he now owns.



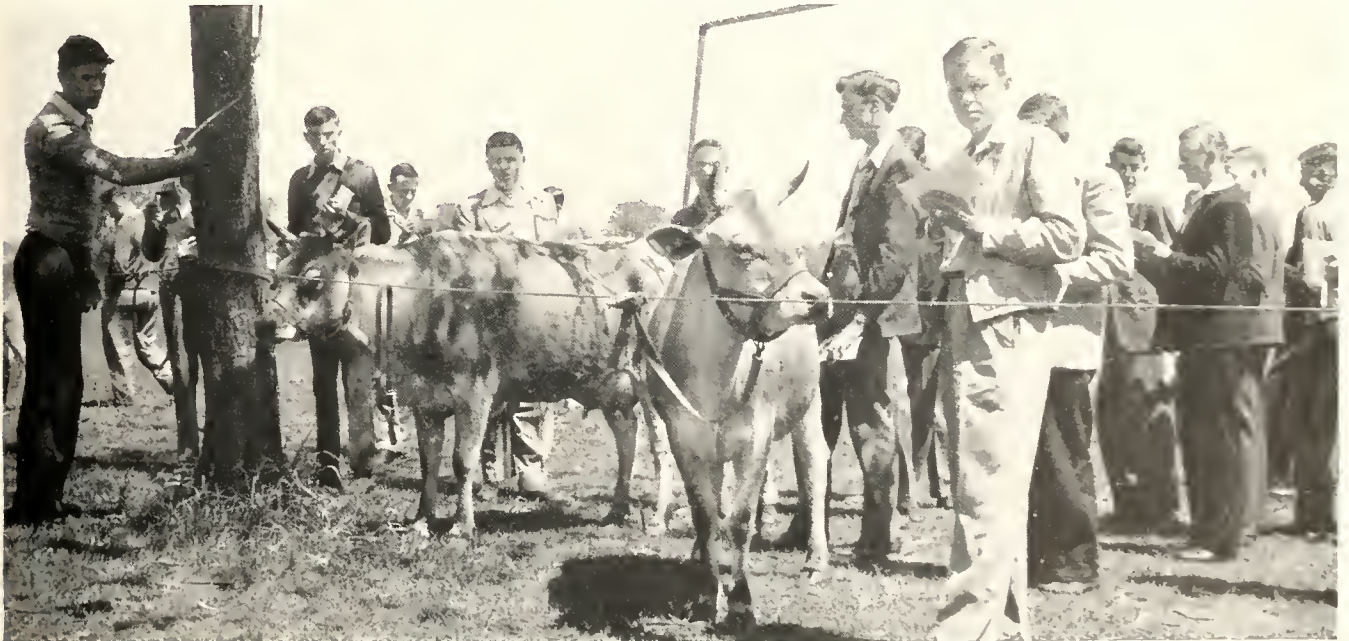
Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated



Stimulates F. F. A. members to greater achievement

THE Foundation was organized to assist the Future Farmers of America and New Farmers of America in attaining their objectives. The following pictures show some of the ways the Foundation is of service to these organizations.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING



Members of the Future Farmers of America judge a ring of dairy cattle. Awards are offered by the Foundation

for national judging contests, including dairy cattle, dairy products, poultry, poultry products, livestock and meats.



IMPROVED BREEDING

Just a boy and a calf. It is an unusual calf, however, for it is the first heifer calf born under an F.F.A. artificial insemination program which is sponsored by the Foundation.

FARM MECHANICS

The Foundation offers national and State awards in farm mechanics to F.F.A. members. Farm boys are encouraged to maintain and use correctly their machines, equipment, buildings, soil and water. This is a very popular award.



STAR FARMERS

A State Star Farmer receives a Foundation award from Robert S. Kerr, recent Governor of Oklahoma. The Foundation gives an award to a Star Farmer in each State. Awards are also given to boys receiving the American Farmer Degree at the national convention.



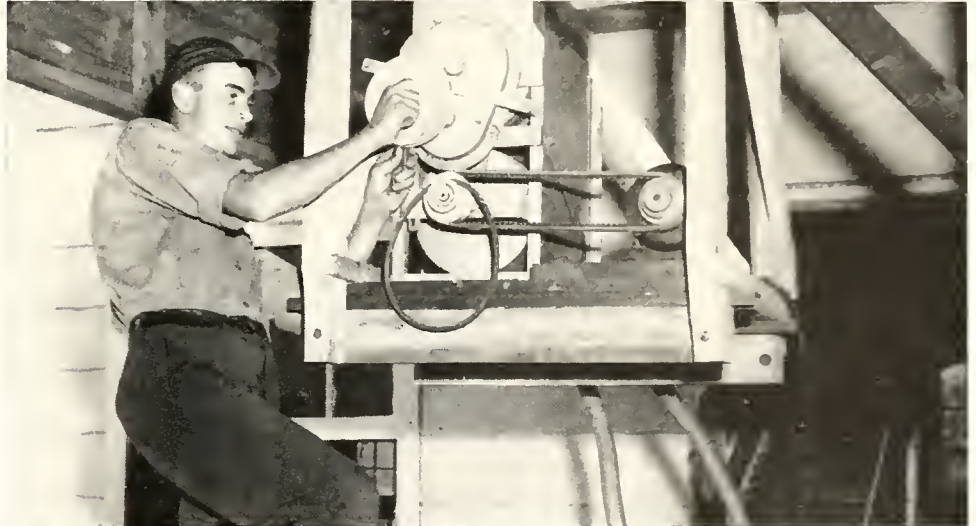
CROP IMPROVEMENT

Members of an F.F.A. chapter dust oats for control of Victoria blight. This State Initiated Project sponsored by the Foundation proved to be very helpful.



FARM ELECTRIFICATION

This young man, a winner of a Farm Electrification Award given by the Foundation, prepares a sulphur duster for the peach grading season on his farm.



DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL

Future Farmers dip sheep to control external parasites. Foundation awards encourage members to perform many types of improved practices annually.



PIG CHAINS

Chapter members look at the two pigs purchased with Foundation funds to start an F.F.A. pig chain to promote better quality hogs in the community.





The Board of Trustees of the Future Farmers of America Foundation meets with members of the advisory committee which is composed of representatives of donors to the

Foundation. Others present are from the Agricultural Education Service of the U. S. Office of Education. Meetings of the trustees and advisory committee are held annually.

THE Future Farmers of America Foundation is made possible by the generous contributions of business, industry, organizations and individuals who wish to support the programs of the Future Farmers of America and New Farmers of America.

The Foundation is helping to prove that business and industry are partners with agriculture. Each knows that progress and prosperity must be shared and that hopes for continuous advancement in science and culture rest in the youth of today.

Members of the F.F.A. and N.F.A. appreciate the interest and assistance of those whose financial support makes possible the Future Farmers of America Foundation.

The F. F. A. Creed

~ I believe in the future of farming, with a faith born not of words but of deeds—achievements won by the present and past generations of farmers; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come up to us from the struggles of former years.

~ I believe that to live and work on a good farm is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of farm life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

~ I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and the public interest in marketing the product of our toil. I believe we can safeguard those rights against practices and policies that are unfair.

~ I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

~ I believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.



The Successful Farmer of Tomorrow Is the Future Farmer of Today

HE faces the future with confidence.

HE believes in himself and respects his fellowmen.

HE studies vocational agriculture and becomes a practical scientific farmer.

HE thinks clearly and works efficiently.

HE recognizes challenging problems and opportunities.

HE is cooperative, friendly, courteous and honest.

HE receives training in leadership and citizenship and serves effectively for his home, community and nation.

HE is bringing a new era of agriculture and rural living.